



# Global Connections and Exchange Program

U.S. Department of State  
Office of Citizen Exchanges

**G**lobal Connections and Exchange programs offer opportunities for teachers and students to share their cultures with classrooms throughout the world. Teachers have the opportunity to select countries of interest and partner with teachers overseas to design and implement short, collaborative projects that enhance social studies curricula and expand students' worldview. Classrooms communicate with each other through monitored discussion boards, forums and other online platforms.

## PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

**Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Authority, Tajikistan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Uzbekistan**

## CLASSROOMS WITHOUT BORDERS

Students hone research and cross-cultural communication skills as they expand their world vision and gain perspectives that will help them succeed in the international arena. At the same time, global perceptions enhance lessons and raise awareness as students use technology to tackle universal issues such as gender equity, health, environment, diversity, and human rights. As a result, students are empowered to create a better world for all.

## TRAVEL

Some programs include educational travel to partner countries. These physical exchanges strengthen mutual understanding and give students and teachers the opportunity to solidify virtual relationships by meeting their partners face-to-face, visiting schools and sharing information about their countries with the partner community.

## Quick Snapshots

- In Indiana, students at Lakeland High School raised funds and bought clothing for Armenian orphans to help its partner school in Armenia with a community service project.
- A teacher and her Ukiah High class in Oregon prepared 100 audio tapes for schools in Tajikistan.
- Students in Uzbekistan created artwork and quilts for Tsunami child victims.
- Exxon-Mobile donated funds to buy computers for schools in Azerbaijan.
- Palestinian students celebrated Global Youth Service Day for the first time this year.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teachers receive training on computer applications, web development and the use of the Internet to enhance lesson plans. Teachers also enhance skills needed to engage in collaborative activities, such as team-building and the development of online modules that incorporate national educational standards.



## CONTACTS

U.S. teachers interested in collaborating with one or more countries may contact Program Managers listed below:

- **Armenia and Azerbaijan:**  
Contact: Project Harmony – Bryan Wockley ([bryan@projectharmony.org](mailto:bryan@projectharmony.org))
- **Uzbekistan:**  
Contact: IREX – Cheryl Maclean ([cmaclean@irex.org](mailto:cmaclean@irex.org))
- **Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Palestinian Authority**  
Contact: Relief International-Schools Online – Caitlin Drewes ([caitlin@schoolsonline.org](mailto:caitlin@schoolsonline.org))
- **Egypt, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Bahrain, Indonesia, Malaysia, Oman, Tunisia, and U.A.E.**  
Contact: iEARN – Tina Habib ([chabib@us.iearn.org](mailto:chabib@us.iearn.org))

Information about individual programs can be found at:

- <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/citizens/students/worldwide/connections.htm>

